

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 09211 040924Z

10

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 124492

O P 040815Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2291

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 9211

EXDIS

INFO ADDRESSEES: EYES ONLY FOR AMBASSADORS/CHARGES

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, IR, AF

SUBJECT: BHUTTO'S MEETING WITH THE SHAH, OCTOBER 1-2

1. AGHA SHAHI ASKED THAT I SEE HIM THIS MORNING TO TELL
ME OF ANNOUNCEMENT THAT HAD BEEN MADE A FEW HOURS EARLIER
ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH
BANGLADESH AND TO INFORM ME GENERALLY OF THE SUBSTANCE
OF THE TALKS BETWEEN BHUTTO AND THE SHAH IN TEHRAN. I
CONGRATULATED HIM ON THE FORMER ANNOUNCEMENT. OUR
COMMENTS THEREON WILL BE SENT SEPARATELY.

2. AGHA SHAHI SAID THAT THE TALKS BETWEEN BHUTTO AND
THE SHAH WERE FOR THE MOST PART PRIVATE WITH NO ONE
ELSE PRESENT. HE SAID BHUTTO HAD BRIEFED HIM ON THE
AIRPLANE COMING BACK AND ASKED THAT HE GIVE ME THE
SUBSTANCE OF WHAT HAPPENED WITHOUT DELAY. I GATHER THAT
THE INITIATIVE FOR THE MEETING CAME FROM BHUTTO AND THAT
THE TIMING WAS INFLUENCED, AMONG OTHER THINGS, BE HIS
DESIRE TO INFORM THE SHAH IN ADVANCE OF THE PENDING
NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH BANGLADESH.

3. SHAHI SAID THE TALKS WERE QUITE WIDE-RANGING. ON

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 ISLAMA 09211 040924Z

THE FIRST DAY, THEY DISCUSSED THE SITUATION IN DETAIL

IN THE REGION WITH EMPHASIS ON INDIA, AFGHANISTAN, AND BANGLADESH. BHUTTO HAD TOLD THE SHAH OF HIS CONTINUING COMMITMENT TO THE SIMLA PROCESS WITH INDIA AND OF THE NEW RELATIONSHIP HE HOPED TO ESTABLISH WITHOUT DELAY WITH BANGLADESH, WHICH WOULD INCLUDE A QUICK EXCHANGE OF AMBASSADORS, MOVEMENT ON TRADE, DIRECT COMMUNICATIONS, ETC. IT WOULD APPEAR THAT CONSIDERABLE TIME WAS DEVOTED TO THE SUBJECT OF AFGHANISTAN, WITH BHUTTO EAGER TO OBTAIN THE IMPRESSION OF THE SHAH AS TO WHAT THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN REALLY WAS, AND TO ENLIST HIS EFFORTS IN VIEW OF INCREASING IMPORTANCE OF IRAN-AFGHAN RELATIONS, TO HELP KEEP THINGS UNDER CONTROL. ON HIS PART, BHUTTO TALKED ABOUT THE COMING SUPREME COURT DECISION ON THE LEGALITY OF THE GOP'S FEBRUARY BANNING OF THE NATIONAL AWAMI PARTY (NAP). HE APPARENTLY SAID THAT THERE WAS SOME THINKING THAT A DECISION AGAINST THE NAP WOULD APPEAR TO CLOSE THE DOOR ON ANY POSSIBLE NEGOTIATIONS WITH AFGHANISTAN, OR THE IMPROVEMENT OF RELATIONS. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE COURTS IN PAKISTAN UNDER ITS PARLIMENTARY DEMOCRACY WERE INDEPENDENT AND THAT WHATEVER DECISION THEY MADE WOULD NOT BE A CONTRIVED ONE (HE TOLD ME LAST SATURDAY NIGHT AT DINNER THAT HE THOUGHT REPEAT THOUGHT THE DECISION WOULD BE AGAINST THE NAP). BHUTTO SAID HE WANTED HIS IMPORTANT NEIGHBORS AND WESTERN COUNTRIES TO UNDERSTAND THAT THE COURT'S DECISION WOULD BE STRICTLY ITS OWN. HE SAID ITS VERDICT WOULD OF COURSE BE A LEGAL ONE, AND THAT SO FAR AS HE WAS CONCERNED, THIS WOULD NOT AFFECT CONTINUING EFFORTS ON THE POLITICAL LEVEL TO TRY TO GET ALONG WITH AFGHANISTAN.

4. THE MEETING ON THE SECOND DAY DEALT MAINLY WITH THE SECURITY SITUATION IN THE REGION. BHUTTO APPARENTLY TOLD THE SHAH THAT HE FOUND IT PERSONALLY EMBARRASSING TO HAVE TO ASK THE SHAH FOR ASSISTANCE BUT IT SEEMED TO HIM THAT THE DESTINIES OF THEIR TWO COUNTRIES WERE SO TIED TOGETHER THAT HE HAD NO OTHER ALTERNATIVE. HE TOLD THE SHAH THAT HE COULD REALLY ONLY TURN TO IRAN AND SAUDI ARABIA FOR ANY SUBSTANTIAL ASSISTANCE IN THE SECURITY FIELD.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 ISLAMA 09211 040924Z

5. THE SHAH APPARENTLY SAID "I HAVE DECIDED TO HELP YOU." HE ASKED THAT BHUTTO SEE THAT HE WAS INFORMED OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF PAKISTAN, AS FAR AS MILITARY SUPPLY WAS CONCERNED, THE PRICE AND AVAILABILITY DATA BEING FURNISHED BY THE US, THE TERMS OF PAYMENT WE REQUESTED, ETC. SHAHI SAID THE NATURE OF THE DISCUSSION WAS SUCH THAT BHUTTO SEEMED TO FEEL HE HAD SOMETHING OF

A GREEN LIGHT TO GO AHEAD IN THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT FROM THE US, PROVIDED THE PRICE AND LEAD TIMES WERE NOT EXCESSIVE.

6. SHAHI SAID THERE WAS ALSO TALK ABOUT DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE AND BALANCE OF PAYMENTS LOANS. HE SAID THAT IT HAD BEEN AGREED THAT THIS SUBJECT WOULD BE PURSUED BY EXPERTS, BUT BHUTTO WAS LEFT WITH THE IMPRESSION THAT THE SHAH WAS FAVORABLY DISPOSED. HE SAID THAT IN THIS DISCUSSION THE SHAH HAD MADE THE REMARK THAT THE RECENT 10 PERCENT RISE IN OIL PRICES BY OPEC WAS "TRIVIAL," BUT HE HOPED THE GESTURE OF NOT GOING HIGHER WOULD HELP CREATE A BETTER CLIMATE FOR THE COMING PARIS CONFERENCE.

7. I WOULD GUESS THAT BHUTTO WAS GENERALLY SATISFIED WITH HIS TALKS WITH THE SHAH, AS HE WAS WITH HIS RECENT TALKS IN SAUDI ARABIA. NEITHER APPARENTLY PRODUCED SPECIFIC AMOUNTS OF ASSISTANCE THAT MIGHT BE OBTAINED FOR THE PURCHASE OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT. THAT WAS PROBABLY MORE THAN COULD BE EXPECTED AT THIS STAGE, AS THE PAKS HAVE NOT AS YET REFINED THEIR TOTAL REQUIREMENTS DOWN TO SUCH SPECIFIC TERMS. THERE WILL OBVIOUSLY BE A CONTINUING COORDINATION PROBLEM AS BOTH COUNTRIES MOVE TOWARDS SPECIFICS.

8. I ASKED SHAHI TO CONVEY MY APPRECIATION TO BHUTTO FOR THIS PROMPT AND DETAILED RUNDOWN OF HIS TALKS WITH THE SHAH.
BYROADE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ISLAMA09211
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750345-0405
From: ISLAMABAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751082/aaaacvel.tel
Line Count: 144
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 MAY 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <06 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BHUTTO'S MEETING WITH THE SHAH, OCTOBER 1-2
TAGS: PFOR, PK, IR, AF, BG, (PAHLAVI, MOHAMMAD REZA), (BHUTTO, ALI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006